

# BOOK REVIEWS

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE does not review all books sent to it by the publishers. A list of new books received is carried in the Advertising Section.

**READINGS IN MODERN SURGERY**—Edited by Richard H. Egdahl, MD, Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Boston University School of Medicine; and John A. Mannick, MD, Professor of Surgery, Boston University School of Medicine. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10003), 1973. 670 pages, \$21.50 (Hardcover), \$14.50 (Softcover).

This volume consists of 58 selected papers from current surgical literature. Individual subject headings such as stomach, transplantation, tumors, etc., may be represented by one to five papers. In addition each paper is followed by an overview by the senior author and by an annotated bibliography.

I'm afraid that for the surgeon, the material in this volume is largely repetitive. The articles have previously been published in surgical journals and may have been presented before surgical societies. The same can be said for the articles in the annotated bibliography.

However, this volume may have more to offer the non-surgeon than the surgeon. Students, residents and internists may find it a ready source for current information and thought on diverse surgical problems. In this regard the selection and organization of the subject headings, the overview and annotated bibliography may be especially helpful and would complement information in a standard surgical textbook as intended.

EDWARD PASSARO, JR., MD

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**RESPIRATION IN HEALTH AND DISEASE**—Second Edition—Reuben M. Chernick, MD, Professor of Medicine, University of Manitoba, Director, Joint Respiratory Programme, University of Manitoba, Head, Section of Respiratory Diseases, Winnipeg General Hospital, Director, Respiratory Division, Clinical Investigation Unit, Winnipeg General Hospital, Physician, Winnipeg General Hospital and Rehabilitation Hospital—D. A. Stewart Centre; Louis Chernick MD, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Manitoba, Physician, Winnipeg General Hospital and Rehabilitation Hospital—D. A. Stewart Centre; Arnold Naimark, MD, Dean of Medicine, Professor and Head, Department of Physiology, University of Manitoba, Associate Director, Respiratory Division, Clinical Investigation Unit, Winnipeg General Hospital, Physician, Winnipeg General Hospital, W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 496 pages with 115 illustrations, \$14.50.

This volume provides a forthright, compact, well-organized orientation to the field of applied pulmonary physiology where practiced in settings which rely on laboratory-based information for intelligent therapeutic action. Accordingly, it would be of value to the practitioner, house staff officer, or student. The volume is based on the considerable research and practical experience of its three authors, all respected scientists in their own rights, with assistance in the pediatric area from Victor Chernick, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Manitoba. It is broad in scope, covering the vast majority of subjects that are of current interest in the field of respiration. As such, some subjects of importance are treated too briefly, such as the discussion of mechanisms underlying hypoxia, but in general the overview is timely. The sections on the pulmonary circulation, respiratory control mechanisms, the aging lung, neonatal pulmonary physiology and exercise physiology are as sound as any I have read. The book covers in sufficient detail newer tests of considerable importance, such as frequency-dependence of compliance, "closing volumes," and immune secretory globulins. The book would be especially useful to students in respiratory therapy and cardiopulmonary technology, as well as for quick review by house officers before entering formal postdoctoral training in the various pulmonary specialties.

Another outstanding attribute of this book is its easily readable style. The sections on pulmonary mechanics, blood gas analysis and physical diagnosis of the chest are particularly delightful in the style with which they are written.

With all these "pluses," it is disturbing to note that several errors in the script, some of them quite misleading, have been carried over from the first to the current, second edition. The majority, but not all of these errors are simple typographical ones, or mistakes in notation or orientation of the figures. Other errors, such as the concept that maintenance of an arterial  $PO_2$  of 80-100 mm Hg. is necessary in the average patient, are grossly misleading in the terms of current physiologic thinking.

Still, all in all, in a relatively arid literary wasteland where the usual introduction to clinical pulmonary physiology is more often a treatment than a "treat," the volume is a welcome addition, which can only be improved by careful editing in its next edition.

GEORGE G. BURTON, MD

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**DISEASES OF THE BREAST**—Second Edition—C. D. Haagensen, MD, Professor Emeritus of Clinical Surgery, The College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19105), 1971. 829 pages with 578 illustrations, \$35.00.

The Second Edition of *Diseases of the Breast* is the most comprehensive and informative, and definitive work in its field.

Dr. C. D. Haagensen has brought his monumental first edition up-to-date, covering every aspect of diseases of the breast in a most authoritative fashion. Anatomy, physiology, pathology, and treatment are presented in a very readable, and yet very comprehensive fashion.

This book should be in the hands of every physician or surgeon who deals with diseases of the breast.

Dr. Haagensen takes up the controversial issue of how extensive surgical extirpation should be for cancer of the breast. He rigidly adheres to his time honored, classical radical mastectomy, and states with clarity and persuasion his conviction that there is no place for lesser operations. In this respect, despite identical clinical findings, Dr. Haagensen gives no consideration to the extreme biological variation in different cancers of the breast. The recent studies with newer isotopes indicate that a significant number of patients with clinical stage-I cancer of the breast have, in fact, bony metastases. It is obvious that the most radical local operation will not result in cure, and in this area certainly consideration to lesser mutilating operation must be given.

Dr. Haagensen's persuasive support of the standard radical mastectomy is based on an abiding faith that most cancers of the breast are local growths. It seems likely to this reviewer that the next decade will produce evidence that the enormous biological variations in cancer of the breast will require therapy specifically designed for each particular patient. Increasing use of a modified radical operation, which if properly done, can be as complete as in the standard radical, is indicative of the changing mood of the medical profession in regard to this disease.

Despite the above comments, Dr. Haagensen's book will remain as one of the finest, most informative, and authoritative books in its field. The facts are there in

abundance for all to read. Interpretation of these facts will remain an area of controversy until new methods for precise elucidation of the biological variations of each individual cancer become available.

J. ENGELBERT DUNPHY MD

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**RENAL DISEASE IN CHILDHOOD—Second Edition—**John A. James, MB (Edin.), MRCP, DCH, Professor of Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, University of Southern California School of Medicine, Chief Physician, Pediatric Pavilion, Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center, Los Angeles. The C. V. Mosby Company, 11830 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, MO (63141), 1972. 377 pages, \$23.50.

Dr. James' second edition of his book *Renal Disease in Childhood* is directed to the "non-nephrologist." He has written a useful book that will assist practicing physicians, housestaff, and students in understanding kidney disease in patients.

The sections describing disease entities are the book's strongest. The descriptions are short, clear and specific. Treatment, especially drug treatment is dealt with in a direct and useful manner, the tables are helpful. The author often invokes his own opinion in a pleasant way to provide a recommendation where no definitive statement is possible.

The discussion of physiology is less effective. The need for brevity precludes an in-depth discussion. The dilemma of all pediatric books is having to deal with the variables of age and size, be comprehensive in a subject and still be concise. Neither renal physiology nor body fluid physiology is dealt with authoritatively and the reader should depend on other sources, as the author, himself, seems to imply.

The sections on repeated urinary tract infections in girls appropriately develop the evidence of pro and con as to their potential for leading to renal failure. The author comes down on the side that renal failure rarely results; simple bacteremia may not be a major medical problem. This view heretical a short time back, is now gaining respectability.

His descriptions of nephrosis and glomerulonephritis are also excellent. We disagree that the mechanism for edema in acute nephritis and nephrosis is the same, but overall the presentations are very useful.

The book can be recommended to its intended audience.

MALCOLM A. HOLLIDAY, MD

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**RHEUMATIC FEVER—Second Edition—Volume II in the Series Major Problems in Clinical Pediatrics—**Milton Markowitz, MD, Professor and Head, Department of Pediatrics, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, Connecticut; and Leon Gordis, MD, Dr PH, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and of Medical Care and Hospitals, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, and Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland. Alexander J. Schaffer, Consulting Editor, W. B. Saunders Company, Publisher, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19105), 1972. 309 pages, illustrated, \$11.50.

The incidence of rheumatic fever has markedly declined in the past few decades; in our own state the disease has become distinctly uncommon. It has not disappeared, however, and the physician confronted with clinical problems in this field more than ever needs to refresh and update his own knowledge about rheumatic fever. From its first publication in 1965, Dr. Markowitz and Dr. Kuttner's book on this subject has been the outstanding reference in its field. As Dr. Anne Kuttner has passed away, the second edition is prepared by Drs. Markowitz and Leon Gordis. This new edition has been rewritten to include the new studies and advances in rheumatic fever and in the biology of the streptococcus, including the work of Fox and Kaplan on the development of streptococcal vaccine and Wannamaker's studies

concerning the difference between the biology of streptococcal skin and throat infection. The references have been extensively revised and updated. The book contains sixteen chapters dealing with such topics as the biology of the streptococcus, the etiology, the pathology, diagnosis, course, treatment and prevention of rheumatic fever. The chapter on primary prevention deals with the diagnosis and management of streptococcal infection and streptococcal carriers. There are also three appendices, embodying the American Heart Association 1971 statements on the Jones Criteria for the Diagnosis of Rheumatic Fever, and on the prevention of the disease. A statement prepared by Dr. Lewis Wannamaker on the technique of obtaining a throat culture, streaking, reading, confirming and interpreting the results of the culture, is also included. The authors review the accumulated evidence in the literature, clearly present the controversial nature of some of the evidence, yet in the end, come out with their own clear cut recommendations which are of value to the reader. Their advice is particularly apparent and appreciated in the discussion about the use of steroids and aspirin in the treatment of rheumatic fever.

In summary, this is an authoritative and readable up-to-date discussion of all aspects of rheumatic fever for the clinician. It should be made available on the shelf of hospital and medical libraries as a reference. Those physicians who are particularly interested in rheumatic fever as a subject or see more than a very occasional patient with this disease will want to have this book available in their personal library.

M. GROSSMAN, MD

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**BONE TUMORS—Fourth Edition—**Louis Lichtenstein, MD, Clinical Professor of Pathology, University of California, San Francisco; Professor Extraordinario, National University of Mexico. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. (63103), 1972. 441 pages, 496 illustrations in 252 figures, \$24.50.

The usefulness and popularity of this work has been well demonstrated in the 20 years since the 1st edition. Now a new 4th edition has been published. The printing format is more legible, and the number of illustrations, chiefly radiographs, has been modestly increased.

Dr. Lichtenstein is one of the true giants in the field of bone tumors. In his own works or with collaborators like Jaffee we can follow the evolution of modern knowledge of bone pathology. From a confusing mass of anecdotal material he helped develop many of our current concepts. His name is intimately associated with a wide range of neoplastic and non-neoplastic bone conditions such as giant cell tumor, non-osteogenic fibroma, solitary cyst, chondroblastoma, chondromyxoid fibroma, aneurysmal bone cyst, chondrosarcoma, villonodular synovitis and others. This book is his testament.

It is a very personal book, a true monograph, written sharply and to the point. The style contrasts greatly with the thorough but rather dull multi-authored tomes now in fashion in medical literature. Because the text is short, the narrative frequently is somewhat dogmatic and avoids presenting alternative points of view in areas of controversy. One such area is the prognostic value of histologic grading of giant cell tumors. However, this drawback does not detract from the usefulness of this book, especially to residents and younger physicians. This is not a book one can refer to to for a discussion of modern biochemical concepts; rather it is the distillation of a lifetime of experiences with bone tumors.

There is little new in this edition, except for a brief chapter on certain rare primary tumors of bone such as leiomyosarcoma and malignant mesenchymoma. There is also a change in the concept of the unusual tumors called